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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 31 | Min 20 | Humidity 73% Partly cloudy sky Sensex 82,948 | Nifty 25,377 | Gold 74,730 | Silver 86,000 | Dollar 83.75 | Euro 93.05 | GBP 110.75

BBMP's modus operandi to spend tax payers' money: Build a toilet. Let it become defunct. Then start building another one close by

LIFE CYCLE OF A LOO

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It is the onus of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to ensure Namma Bengaluru remains free from open defecation by constructing the adequate number of public toilets at the right places in the city. And of course, while doing that it must also make sure that the existing public toilets are not going to the dogs.

But a scene at Gangadhara Chetty Road is illustrative of what is going on at that front. While one of the public toilets that was constructed a few years ago by the BBMP that spent a lot of money during the time has turned dysfunctional, workers are busy in the same area, building a new... public toilet.

The idea behind constructing the toilet there was to help auto drivers who otherwise had to attend nature's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »

Old toilet on Gangadhar Chetty Road lies neglected (left) as new one is being constructed (right)

CITY / PAGE 3

GONE GREEN

9,703 trees fall on altar of development in 3 years as city turns less green

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3 THINGS TO DO

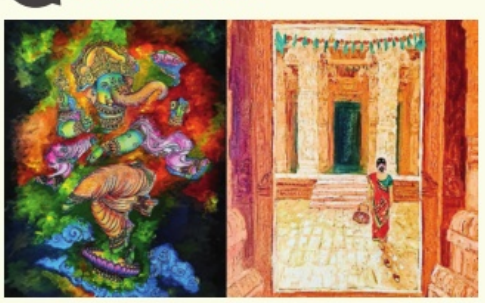
01 Music festival

Immerse yourself in a musical experience, bringing together the finest Indian classical musicians, dancers, and visual artists with the 7th edition of the Omkar Music Festival. Adding an artistic flair to the festival, a live drawing and painting exhibition will run parallel to the performances. This unique event will see renowned Bangalore-based artists, including Babun Ghosh and Sumanaa Biswas, who will judge a competition with special prizes awarded to participants across various age groups.
Where: Nexus Shantiniketan Mall
When: September 20 to 22, 4 pm to 9 pm

02 Shopping expo

With a dazzling array of stalls ranging from garments, office stationery, lifestyle home furniture, makeup, healthcare, electronics, and accessories, the Biggest Family B-SHIP Expo promises something for everyone—all under one roof. It brings together entrepreneurs, business leaders, and professionals from diverse industries within the Arya Vysya community. This two-day event will feature 200+ stalls, showcasing a wide array of products and services, including learning sessions and entertainment, making it a comprehensive experience for both exhibitors and visitors. **Where: Shubh Convention Centre, JP Nagar; When: September 21-22, 10 am to 8 pm**

03 Art exhibit



It's the last day today to explore 'Kala Bazaar,' an extraordinary art show that showcases painting, sculpture, furniture pieces, stained glass jewellery, and digital art. The highlight of Kala Bazaar will be the auction of a charcoal drawing and sculpture by the acclaimed artist 'Arun Yogiraj.' The sales from the artworks will support Gulab Seva, an NGO dedicated to supporting cervical cancer, and the FLO Social Initiative supporting Empowerment of Women. **Where: Bangalore International Centre (BIC); When: September 19**

Space wonders
Models of Indian space missions and launch vehicles, including Chandrayaan and GSLV, are displayed at the International Exhibition Centre in Bengaluru on Wednesday

It is set: SSLC students shall answer board-level midterms

Exam board is all set with finalised question papers for all subjects, with soft copies to be sent soon for midterm exams scheduled from Sept 24 to Oct 1

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School Examination and Assessment Board (KSEAB), which are scheduled from September 24 to October 1. However, the evaluation process will continue to be conducted at the respective schools.

Last year, the board introduced the practice of providing question papers for the preparatory exams. KSEAB Chairperson N Manjushree stated that this year, the board is also preparing and providing question papers for the half-yearly exams in line with the government's instructions. "The board has already finalised the question papers for all subjects and will soon send soft copies to all Block Education Officers (BEOs) across the state, who will then email these papers to the schools before the exam. Schools are responsible for printing the papers and conducting the exams accordingly."

Why this shift?

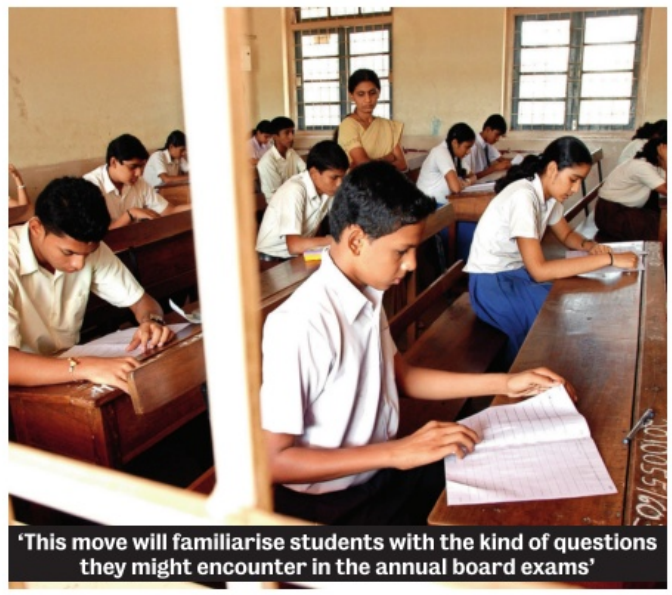
For the past few years, schools were responsible for preparing question papers for half-yearly and preparatory exams. Prior to this, teacher organisations were in charge of setting these papers.

According to officials, when teachers prepared question papers at the school level, they often based the questions on the lessons they had covered so far, which might not have been the complete syllabus. As a result, teachers would sometimes set easier papers to ensure better results. However, this could lead to students performing well in the half-yearly exams but struggling in the annual exams. "To prevent such discrepancies, the board has decided to issue standardised question papers for the half-yearly exams. This will also familiarise students with the kind of questions they might encounter in the annual board exams, thus helping them prepare better," she said.

While the decision has been welcomed by the Secondary School Teachers' Association, they have expressed concerns about the responsibility for printing being placed on schools. They suggested that printing should be handled at the BEO level and distributed to schools. They also recommended that the government bear the printing costs, warning that parents may express discontent if asked to pay for the papers.

48,000 students await better colleges despite allocation

A total of 1.7 lakh seats have been allocated for professional courses, but 48,000 students, dissatisfied with the colleges they were assigned, are holding out for admission to better institutions. According to the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA), 48,271 students who received seats in the first round are hoping to secure admission to better colleges in the second round. These students opted for 'Choice-2' in the first round, allowing them to keep their current seat while waiting for a potentially better one. As a result, seats in these colleges will not be visible for the second round of allotment.



'This move will familiarise students with the kind of questions they might encounter in the annual board exams'

Insights into seat allotment

When looking at the seat allotment data, the majority of students received seats in engineering stream. A total of 64,490 students have chosen their preferred seats, with 19,737 selecting 'Choice-1,' indicating that they are satisfied with their assigned seats and are wishing to confirm their admission. However, only 16,038 students have completed the fee payment process and reported to their respective colleges. Meanwhile, 32,866 students opted for 'Choice-2,' hoping to secure a better seat in the second round. Despite being given four options to choose from, 9,355 students have not selected any of the available choices. Of these, 5,895 students are in the engineering stream. "We have explained the process of making choices to students in a simple manner. Before making their choice, students were advised to read the rules and record their preferences. They were also given the opportunity to change their selections. Soon, the seat allotment for the second round will take place," said H Prasanna, Executive Director, KEA.

Lesser green: 9,703 trees gone in 3 years

As Bengaluru's green cover falls at altar of infra projects, activists call for comprehensive greenery development plan

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Bengaluru's green cover is depleting at a rate faster than ever.

The city has witnessed the felling of at least 9,703 trees over the past three years according to data from Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

The trees were removed for infrastructure development projects involving metro, suburban rail, and road widening or improvement projects.

Out of these, 4,926 trees were felled by Karnataka Rail Infrastructure Development Company Limited (K-RIDE), 4,078 were cut by Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) and 699 were removed by BBMP.

Apart from these, 2,578 trees were felled for other projects by agencies such as South Western Railway, HAL, BWSSB, and Government First Grade College, taking the total number to 12,281.

File photo of trees that were to be axed along an upcoming Metro line

What is plan B?

Experts say this massive massacre of green cover calls for a comprehensive greenery development plan for Bengaluru. The plan can be integrated with the Bengaluru Comprehensive Mobility Plan.

"While hundreds of trees are vanishing with every infrastructure development project, there is a lack of a holistic picture of this damage. This calls for a comprehensive greenery development plan for the city as an integrated part of a comprehensive mobility plan," said Dattatreya Devare, trustee, Bangalore Environment Trust.

He further added, "Agencies such as Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority (BMRDA) and Bangalore Development Authority should prepare a plan on improving and sustaining the city's green cover. It should not be a piecemeal approach. Moreover, the plan should be made available to the public and open for public consultation."

> **"While hundreds of trees are vanishing with every infrastructure development project, there is a lack of a holistic picture of this damage**
>
> –Dattatreya Devare, trustee, Bangalore Environment Trust

Climate action

Experts also point out that agencies such as the Bengaluru Climate Action and Resilience Plan (BCAP) should recognise the important role trees play in abating climate change. They opine that the BBMP's climate action cell, constituted for effective implementation of BCAP, should look at the large number of trees being felled for infrastructure projects and minimise the loss.

"One of the main goals of BCAP is sustainable and healthy living. The agency has the BBMP limits as its operational scope and includes air quality, green planning and biodiversity as sectors to improve on. Given these aspects, BCAP should ensure that damage to green cover is minimal even in the case of public transport services such as metro and suburban rail," said a city-based tree activist.

CRIME FILES

Bomb hoax at Army school

An alarming email about a bomb threat received by Ashoka Nagar Army School on Tuesday turned out to be a hoax. The message, sent to the school's official email account, prompted the school administration to swiftly inform the Ashoka Nagar Police Station.

Police personnel conducted a thorough search of the school premises and determined that the threat was a hoax.

Authorities are now investigating the incident further. The school has resumed normal activities, and no injuries or damages have been reported.

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Woman, accomplice arrested in murder attempt

A 59-year-old clothes shopkeeper Hitendra Kumar was brutally attacked by a young woman and her accomplice in Saddaguntepalya. Hitendra had invited the young woman to meet him last Saturday at a park in BTM Layout. During their meeting, Hitendra, who had previously expressed his affection for the woman, reiterated his feelings.

The situation took a violent turn when the woman's friend, identified as Siddu, arrived at the park with a knife. A confrontation ensued, during which Hitendra was stabbed multiple times, including in the stomach and back.

Hitendra filed a complaint with the Saddagunte Palya Police Station, accusing the young woman and Siddu of attempting to murder him.

Youth injured after fall into open culvert

A young man is in a serious condition after falling into a culvert that was left open during drainage work in Govindpur, Nagawara. The man, Syed Javed, fell into the open culvert left unmarked or without any barrier and was pierced by an iron rod. He is in the ICU. The incident, which came to light only hours later after videos emerged online, highlights the hazards posed by inadequate safety measures at construction sites. Another individual was also injured at the same location. Surveillance footage has captured a person on a scooter narrowly escaping the open ditch.

Police appeal to trace kin of man killed in accident

Authorities are seeking public assistance to identify the family or acquaintances of a man who lost his life after being struck by a bus at Majestic Amar Junction on the night of Tuesday.

The accident occurred at around 11.45 pm. when the right wheel of the bus burst unexpectedly, causing the vehicle to fatally hit the man. The man is around 40 to 45 years old and had no identification on him.

The police authorities are now appealing to the public for any information that may help in identifying the man and have also requested that if they have any information, they contact the nearest police station.

HC relief as high-security registration plate deadline may be pushed

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The High Court has rescheduled the hearing of petitions requesting an extension of the deadline for installing High-Security Registration Plates (HSRP) on vehicles to November 20. The court's decision to potentially extend the deadline, which originally ended on September 15, provides temporary relief to vehicle owners.

The Transport Department had initially planned to impose fines starting from September 16, with first-time offenders facing a penalty of Rs 500 and repeat offenders being fined Rs 1,000. On the other hand, an official clarified on Sunday that no decisions have been made regarding fines or deadline extensions, as the matter is still pending in court. Officials have assured that no punitive measures will be taken against motorists until a final decision is reached.

Prior to the court hearing on September 18, Transport Department officials had suggested that a decision on extending the deadline would be made following the hearing. They mentioned that although 52 lakh vehicles in the state have complied with the HSRP requirement, 1.4 crore vehicles still need to install the mandated plates.

In August 2023, the Transport Department issued a notification requiring vehicles registered before April 1, 2019, to install HSRPs. The original deadline was set for November 17, 2023, but due to low compliance rates, the deadline has been extended several times. The current deadline marks the fourth extension granted by the department.

As many as 1.4 crore vehicles in state yet to get HSRP installed

The High Court is presently reviewing writ petitions that challenge the Transport Department's notification mandating HSRPs for vehicles registered before April 1, 2019. The HSRP Manufacturers' Association of India has filed an appeal against the government's directive. The association contends that all manufacturers possessing a valid Type Approval Certificate should be permitted to install HSRPs. They argue that limiting installation to specific manufacturers favors "influential" HSRP providers who have pre-existing contracts with automobile companies and their dealers for installing HSRPs on new vehicles.

Case against ex-MLA stays

The High Court has refused to quash a case of cheating and criminal conspiracy against former MLA Lingesh KS, who served as the Chairman of a committee for regularisation of land between 2016-2023. The court made this decision after observing "prima facie" that the committee had treated government land as if it were their personal property and bartered it away.

According to the allegations, the Bagair Hukum Saguvali Samithi, under Lingesh's chairmanship, created records and illegally granted 2,750 acres of government land to 1,430 bogus beneficiaries in Lingesh's constituency of Belur. The value of the land was estimated to be more than 750 crores. Lingesh and other committee members had filed a petition in the high court seeking to quash the case.

No full-stop on PoP: Lakes need post-festival clean-up

Citizens urge stricter enforcement and better waste management during Ganesha festival, calling for year-round action and volunteer involvement

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Lake filled with broken PoP Ganesha idols

Despite the ban on plaster of paris (PoP) Ganesha idols, they are still being sold in several parts of Bengaluru. During Ganesha visarjan, many lakes and kalyanis were used for immersion, but the aftermath was troubling as PoP idols were left floating in the water or discarded in the kalyanis. Citizens have raised concerns and questioned the lack of enforcement by the relevant authorities to prevent this environmental hazard.

Although a few raids were conducted before the Ganesha festival, citizens and experts argue that enforcing the ban only before the festival each year is insufficient. They stress the need for year-round enforcement to curb the manufacturing of these idols. Additionally, large PoP idols are still found in grand pandals set up in various localities, with little to no enforcement in place. While the primary goal is to promote eco-friendly clay Ganesha idols, PoP idols continue to be prevalent.

In one instance, citizens from HSR Layout spotted Ganesha idols at Agara Lake's kalyani. PoP idols were present, and the kalyani was not cleaned up after the visarjan.

Environmental activist Dr Shanthi Tumalla highlighted, "Agara Lake in HSR Layout has not been cleaned after the visarjan, but the real concern isn't just post-cleaning, but it's about why banned PoP idols are allowed in the kalyanis in the first place. Why does the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board permit PoP idols to be displayed in pandals? Some form of enforcement needs to happen. While autos were making announcements urging people not to use PoP idols, there was little actual enforcement. It seems that only 15 days before the Ganesha festival, authorities suddenly took notice and declared a ban on PoP Ganesha idols. There should be year-round efforts to stop the production of these idols. Why are the Pollution Control Board and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) remaining silent? When the entire world is pushing to save the environment, how can the government turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to this issue? Citizens are questioning the lack of enforcement."

> **"It seems that only 15 days before Ganesha festival, authorities suddenly took notice and declared ban on PoP idols** – Dr Shanthi T, activist

Raj from Ploggers Army Pointed out that they are planning a clean-up activity at Agara Lake next week. "It's horrifying to witness this. As citizens, we feel disheartened by the lack of strict monitoring, especially in waste management and proper visarjan practices. Seeing the broken idols of Lord Ganesha is truly upsetting. It's time to enforce stricter rules specifically for waste handling, with dedicated BBMP staff. We'd be more than happy to volunteer, and an open invite from BBMP to citizens could make a real difference. As individuals, we must also avoid disposing of flowers, clothes, and plastic along with the idols. At the household or apartment level, we should ensure everything is sorted before sending it to visarjan. If prasadam is served at the venue, authorities should ensure it's offered in banana leaves or eco-friendly cups," he said.

BDA sets development fee for buildings in Shivaram Karanth layout

The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) has introduced a development fee for residential and commercial buildings that have already been constructed in the Shivarama Karanth Layout. Property owners are required to pay this fee before obtaining property records. The fee is based on the difference between the 2018 residential plot value set by the Registration and Stamps Department and the 2024 residential plot value. One-third of this difference will be imposed as a development fee. The fee has been approved under Sections 20 and 21 of the Bangalore Development Authority Act, 1976, taking into consideration both residential and commercial use aspects.

5,171 Buildings

Owners of 5,171 buildings regularised by the Justice Chandrashekhar

Committee in the 17 villages of the layout are now allowed to pay the development fee and obtain property records. The development fee rates have been set based on the residential areas of each village. For commercial areas, an additional 50% fee will be charged as per the guidelines from the Registration and Stamps Department. For corner plots or those with roads on both sides, an extra 10% will be added.

Shivarama Karanth Layout spans 17 villages between Doddaballapur and Hesaraghatta roads in North Bengaluru. For this project, the BDA acquired 3,546 acres of land from landowners and developed around 25,000 plots. Although the distribution of plots has not started due to ongoing court cases, the development fees for buildings constructed before 2018 have now been set, and owners can pay the fee to obtain property records.

Highest fees in Kempapura

In Kempapura, the fee has been set at ₹1,149 per square foot, the highest among the 17 villages. In Kempanahalli, the fee is ₹43 per square foot, the lowest. BDA officials say the fees are based on the market value and guideline rates.

In Somashettyhalli and Ganigarahalli, the development fee per square meter is ₹5,000. Byalakere has a rate of ₹1,833 per square meter, while Ramagondanahalli is priced at ₹11,067 per square metre. Doddabettahalli's fee is ₹8,667 per square metre, and Kempapura has the highest at ₹12,367 per square metre. Avalahalli's rate is ₹6,042 per square metre, and Harohalli is set at ₹1,790 per square metre. Medi Agrahara's fee is ₹667 per square metre, and Shamarajapura has the same rate as Byalakere at ₹1,833 per square metre. Veerasagara is priced at ₹733 per square metre, while Vaderahalli is ₹833 per square metre. In Kempanahalli, the rate is ₹465 per square metre. JB Kaval is ₹2,000 per square metre, Kalatammanahalli is ₹1,167 per square metre, Lakshmipur is ₹5,000 per square metre, and Guni Agrahara is ₹2,333 per square metre.

— BMB

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Parking peril

KR Puram

Many two-wheelers are consistently parked near the KR Puram bus stop, close to SR Rama Hospital, obstructing pedestrian traffic on the footpath.

Gas trade

Adugodi

Household gas cylinders are being sold at a public scrap shop near 2nd Cross, Shamanna Garden, on the BTS Main Road in Adugodi Post, behind the Mico Factory gate.

Tree trouble

HBR Layout

Tree cuttings have been piling up in the 1st Stage, 4th Block of HBR Layout for the past two months. Now, garbage is being dumped there, turning it into a blackspot.

Rising concerns highlight RERA's poor hold in K'taka

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Despite the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act (RERA) being in force in Karnataka for over seven and a half years, concerns about its ineffective implementation are growing louder by the day. Sources said that this situation is highlighting the ineffectiveness of K-RERA in Karnataka. Organisations striving for proper enforcement of RERA are alleging that although projects are registered with the authority, builders often disregard regulations, merely registering projects for formality's sake and proceeding with construction as they please.

According to data published on the K-RERA website, only 65% of the registered housing projects are currently under construction. As of September 10, there are 6,944 registered housing projects in the state, but construction is ongoing in just 4,543 of them. The remaining 2,401 projects have either stalled or are in a state of distress. Many of these projects belong to popular builders and developers.

In Bengaluru, about 225 housing projects, accounting for 39,908 flats, are currently stalled for various reasons such as financial troubles, fund mismanagement, legal disputes, land acquisition issues, or pending approvals from competent authorities.

As per RERA rules, builders are required to submit quarterly progress reports and financial details for their registered projects. However, most builders are failing to comply. Even after issuing several notices, K-RERA receives little to no response from developers. Moreover, the authority does not conduct physical inspections or enquiries into stalled projects to understand the issues. In the history of K-RERA, there is no instance where action has been taken against a builder. This has led developers to treat the authority lightly, claim advocacy groups.

Currently, 225 housing projects are stalled in Bengaluru

According to a survey conducted by real estate firm Prop Equity, around five lakh housing projects are stalled across 44 major cities in India. The highest number of stalled projects is in Greater Noida, with 74,645 flats, followed by Thane (57,520 flats) and Gurugram (52,509 flats). Mumbai and Bengaluru rank fourth and fifth, with 37,883 and 39,908 flats, respectively.

1,050 unregistered housing projects in state

As per the Karnataka Real Estate Development and Regulation Act, all housing projects in the state must be registered; however, many builders are not adhering to this rule. Complaints have been filed with K-RERA regarding 1,050 unregistered housing projects, which are considered illegal. In most cases, the authority has merely issued notices without taking any decisive action, leading developers to largely ignore these warnings.

MS Shankar, Coordinator, EPC, alleged, "K-RERA is not functioning effectively in the state. Many builders are failing to complete housing projects on time, leaving homebuyers in financial distress. People who have invested in these projects, often through loans, are now regretting their decision. The authority must take strict action against builders and developers who fail to complete projects within the stipulated time frame."

Suicide bids spark cries for barricades at Metro stations

Social activists urge BMRCL to barricade open spaces, strengthen security to prevent suicides in Metro stations; official says process is on to start putting up barricades

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Social activists are demanding Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to barricade open spaces at Metro stations in the city to prevent people from ending their lives by jumping on the Metro tracks. They opined that these incidents resulted in disruptions of Metro services and are causing inconvenience to the commuters and also loss to the BMRCL.

"I am of the opinion that the BMRCL has to appoint more security guards to prevent people jumping on the railway track to end their lives. I think there is a shortage of security guards at Namma Metro stations," said Sudha Katwa, an advocate and social activist.

Expressing concern over people attempting suicide by jumping on the railway tracks, Kathyayini Chamaraj, Executive Trustee of CIVIC Bengaluru, suggested that BMRCL must install barricades at Namma Metro tations to prevent people entering the prohibited area (railway track) to end their lives.

In a recent incident, a 30-year-old man identified as Siddhartha from Bihar was rescued on Tuesday afternoon as he tried to end his life by jumping on the metro track in front of an incoming train at Jnanabharathi Metro Station, causing a brief disruption on the entire Purple Line, officials said. The station staff immediately activated the Emergency Trip System (ETS), halting the train in time. The train services were disrupted for a while, thus causing a lot of inconvenience to the commuters and also a loss to BMRCL.

Crowd at Nadaprabhu Kemegowda Metro Station during peak hours (file photo)

> **"There is a shortage of security guards at Metro stations. BMRCL has to appoint more security guards to prevent people from jumping on tracks** –Sudha Katwa, advocate & social activist

Nanjundappa V, a journalist who was an eyewitness to Siddhartha's dreadful attempt and rescue operation by BMRCL staff on Tuesday, said such incidents are causing a lot of inconvenience to the commuters who depend on Namma Metro to reach workplaces on time. "I want the BMRCL to take measures to prevent individuals from indulging in such activities," he said, adding that he was thankful for the BMRCL staff for saving Siddhartha from the jaws of death.

Previous incidents

It is said that Tuesday's incident is the fifth suicide incident in recent years. According to sources, a person from Kerala suffered head injuries when he jumped on the railway track at Jalahalli Metro Station in January. Previously, a person suffered head injuries after he jumped on the railway track at Hosahalli Metro Station in June. Moreover, in two separate incidents at Deepanjali Nagar Metro Station and Attiguppe Metro Station, two students ended their lives by jumping on the railway tracks.

Preventive measures underway

Meanwhile, BMRCL Chief Public Relations Officer said that the BMRCL has been taking measures to arrange barricades at Namma Metro Stations in the city. "We have been working to find a solution for this problem. We will be arranging barricades at Namma Metro stations," he said.

Naga's crew split across prisons

Following concerns raised over alleged royal treatment being provided to the accused while they were lodged in Parappana Agrahara Central Prison, 27 accused linked to the Wilson Garden Naga gang have been transferred to different central prisons across Karnataka. The accused are said to be involved in organised crime activities and were arrested under the Karnataka Control of Organised Crimes (COCA) Act.

According to the police, the request for the transfer was made to prevent further misconduct and to ensure stricter surveillance of the accused. The City Civil Court Hall-1 (CCH-1) approved the transfer, and the accused have now been moved to six different district prisons across the state. The police had initially raised concerns about the accused receiving preferential treatment in prison, and the transfer is seen as a step towards preventing further issues. **–BMB**

SC sets aside HC murder conviction

The Supreme Court on Wednesday set aside the conviction of two people in a murder case of 2005 while observing that the "brusque approach" of the Karnataka High Court in holding them guilty cannot be sustained.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Aravind Kumar noted that a trial court had earlier delivered a "well-considered judgment" acquitting the accused in the case.

"We may point out that, once the trial court found no evidence to convict the accused, the burden was upon the high court, while reversing the said judgment, to record clear findings in relation to each of the charges and, more particularly, the charge of criminal conspiracy under section 120-B IPC (Indian Penal Code)," the bench said.

It said no such exercise was undertaken by the high court. **–PTI**

Leopard on prowl: KFD scours E-city with camera traps

Experts advise caution, recommending locals avoid isolated areas and reassure citizens that there's no cause for unnecessary alarm

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File photo of a leopard

Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) has set up 10 camera traps in and around the Nettur Technical Training Foundation (NTTF) campus in Electronic City where an early morning sighting of a leopard was reported on Tuesday.

Clips from these camera traps are being studied at regular intervals, said the Assistant Conservator of Forest, Bengaluru South.

"We have installed ten camera traps in and around the campus. We are looking at the clippings every five to six hours to confirm the sighting. As many as 15 forest department staff have been deployed to perambulate Ankela range and KR Puram range to spot pug marks and ascertain the path of the movement of the big cat," said V Ganesh, ACF, Bengaluru South.

Officials told BM that the leopard was caught on camera while crossing a flyover near a toll Plaza in E-city. In all probability, the animal has moved on as no signs have been spotted by on-ground staff over the last two days. This is the second sighting of a big cat in the city. A couple of weeks ago, a leopard was spotted in Jigani.

"We have seen the footage captured by CCTV at the Toll Plaza and although it looks like a leopard, the images are not clear. The team has been combing the area since Tuesday but we have not seen any signs of the big cat. We have also spoken to people in the area and no one has confirmed sightings. The leopard crossed Phase 1 Toll Plaza but the staff on duty have denied direct sighting," added Ganesh.

KFD officials met with the principal of NTTF and discussed the situation. A trap cage has also been kept and the entire area is under vigilance and on high alert.

Take precautions, but don't panic: Experts

Big cat experts say the mere sighting of a leopard in the vicinity of human habitations does not necessarily mean that the animal has strayed from a forest and needs to be captured. Leopards are not usually inclined to attack people; on the contrary, they avoid people.

> **There is no need to panic. People in area should avoid going out during late evening or early morning hours. Street lights around houses should be kept on**
> –Expert

Wild carnivores attack in self-defence, and, therefore, it is advisable to avoid provoking them.

Experts opine that people living in the area should be cautious, but there is no need to hit the panic button.

"There is no need to panic. Leopards are accustomed to living in villages on forest fringe and since Bannerghatta is close by, the big cat might have strayed. Leopards keep hiding in daylight and go around looking for stray dogs during the night hours. People in the area should avoid venturing out during late evening or early morning hours. Street lights and lights around houses should be kept on and people should avoid going to isolated areas alone," said an expert.

Officials seal unlicenced donkey trader

A private company from Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh, involved in the sale of donkeys and their milk without a proper trade licence, had its office in the city sealed on Tuesday by a team of officials. For the past three months, this company has been operating in Vijayanagar district, selling donkeys to farmers and livestock breeders. Several farmer organisations filed complaints with district authorities, accusing the company of defrauding them of lakhs of rupees. In response, Manohar, the Project Director of the District Urban Development Cell, was appointed to investigate the matter. During the investigation, the company staff failed to produce a valid trade licence, leading to the officials sealing the office. The officials instructed the company to obtain the necessary permits and operate within legal frameworks before resuming operations.

Over 300 pending orders

More than 250 people have already purchased donkeys from the company, and an additional 300 individuals have made payments and are awaiting delivery. These customers hail from regions such as Koppal, Ballari, Davanagere, and Haveri districts. Reports indicate that deliveries were promised for the upcoming week, while 20 more buyers visited the company office on Tuesday to finalise their purchases.

Suspicious documentation

Authorities have raised concerns over the company's documents, suspecting discrepancies between their business operations and the licences they hold. While the company claims to supply cosmetic products, its activities have focused on donkey sales. Manohar, the Project Director, visited the private company's office to inspect the records further. Farmers from various taluks in Vijayanagara district have been involved in these transactions, with many awaiting their donkey deliveries after making full payments. Officials stated that the company lacked the necessary business permits and departmental approvals, leading to the temporary shutdown. The situation will be reassessed once the company secures the appropriate licences.

Learn to grow dragon fruit in 10 days

ICAR-IIHR is hosting training program from Sept 18 to 27 on advanced techniques for Kamalam fruit production and processing, focusing on enhancing yields and quality amid rising demand

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The Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (ICAR-IIHR) is hosting a specialised 10-day training program focused on "Scientific Approaches Towards Production and Processing of Kamalam Fruit (dragon fruit)" from September 18 to 27. The program is designed to provide participants with comprehensive knowledge and advanced techniques for the cultivation and commercial production of Kamalam, commonly known as Dragon Fruit.

With the rising demand for Kamalam in both domestic and international markets, the training aims to equip farmers, horticulturists, and agricultural professionals with best practices for maximising yields and enhancing fruit quality. The course covers a wide array of topics, including propagation methods, nutrient management, pest and disease control, harvesting techniques, and post-harvest management. The program also emphasises the processing and marketing aspects of Kamalam, making it highly relevant for those looking to commercialise this exotic fruit crop

"Dragon fruit is not only a high-value crop but also a nutritional powerhouse, rich in antioxidants, vitamins, and fibre. Its health benefits, coupled with its growing demand in global markets, make it an ideal crop for farmers looking to diversify and enhance profitability through sustainable practices," said an expert.

Program provides farmers and entrepreneurs a chance to learn latest techniques

Experts, scientists, and practitioners from ICAR-IIHR and across the country will lead the sessions, offering practical insights and hands-on experience to participants. The training aligns with ICAR-IIHR's broader mission to promote innovative and sustainable horticultural practices in India. As Kamalam continues to emerge as a high-value crop, the program offers a timely opportunity for farmers and entrepreneurs to learn about the latest research and technological advancements in dragon fruit farming.

Participants will also be introduced to cutting-edge developments in post-harvest management and the value-added processing of dragon fruit, helping them stay competitive in the growing market. This initiative by ICAR-IIHR underscores the importance of scientific and sustainable approaches in modern agriculture, contributing to the future success of Kamalam cultivation in India.

HEALTH TIP: If you snore loudly and feel tired even after a full night's sleep, you may have sleep apnea

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Weigh your options

My child's weight is affecting their health. How can I best support them?

Weight fluctuation and change in body composition with growth is a normal part of development. Apart from the first year of life, teenage years experience the most rapid increase in growth and development.

Your health-care provider will consider your child's weight status as part of a holistic assessment considering age, sex, and stage of growth.

Not all children with high weight will have health consequences.

However, as children get older excess body fat may have health complications including sleep apnoea (where breathing stops and starts during sleep), bone or joint problems, liver disease, high blood pressure or cholesterol, or insulin resistance (pre-diabetes).

If you notice changes in your child or adolescent's health – such as dark patches around the neck or under arms (which indicate insulin resistance), headaches, trouble sleeping or joint pain – speak with your GP.

What will your GP do?

Your GP can investigate if there is a health impact related to excess weight. They may check blood pressure, and do a blood test to check liver health, cholesterol levels and blood sugar levels.

High weight is often related to mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, or eating disorders. Your GP can help assess and manage these conditions.

A GP with experience in weight management can provide appropriate support and referrals to local support depending on your area. An accredited practising dietitian experienced in paediatric health, for example, can help develop healthy meal routines for the family.

Changes that involve the whole family

Initial treatments for weight-related health will depend on your child's age. They usually involve a whole-of-family approach to improving health behaviours, such as:

- healthy dietary changes such as offering a variety of fruits and vegetables of different colours and types, and limiting sugary drinks and foods high in salt, fat and sugar
- limiting screen time (aiming for no more than two hours a day of non-education screen time for children aged five to 17)
- improving sleep habits (aiming for 9-11 hours a night for children aged six to 12, and 8-10 hours a night for teens)
- increasing physical activity (aiming for one hour of energetic play or vigorous activity a day).

Most children and adolescents will have improved physical and mental health and wellbeing after behaviour-changing interventions. This might include improved eating behaviours, fewer symptoms of depression, and better self-esteem and body image.

Options for adolescents

Sometimes weight loss may be recommended for adolescents with significant excess weight and associated complications.

As children get older, they will be included in the treatment decision making-process.

A range of prescriptive diets have been trialled with adolescents, including very low energy diets.

Our recent trial shows specific diets can stabilise weight and improve physical and mental health of adolescents. Our trial included 141 adolescents with obesity-associated complications and compared intermittent and continuous energy restriction.

We found improvements in weight, insulin resistance and liver function after one year for both groups. Symptoms of depression, eating disorders and binge eating reduced following four-weeks of a very low energy diet, followed by a transition to intermittent or continuous energy restriction, which was maintained for one year.

However, any prescribed diet should only be used under medical and dietary supervision.

New generation medications (such as Wegovy) are now available to adolescents with severe obesity to be used alongside behavioural therapy. These can help with weight loss and reduce risk of future health complications.

Bariatric surgery may be an option for older teens with significant health complications.

If you are thinking about using medications or having surgery, discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor.

Watch for signs of disordered eating

Children and adolescents with higher body weight may attempt to lose weight on their own. Unfortunately, most publicly available information is not tailored to the needs of growing children, can be unsustainable and may lead to disordered eating behaviours.

Social media is loaded with unhelpful weight loss, diet and exercise messages, and often promotes unattainable body image ideals. Talk to you children about what they see on social media to help them recognise which social media content is beneficial.

If you notice your child is losing weight quickly, hiding food or eating in secret, binge eating (eating a lot of food and feeling they cannot stop), vomiting after eating, overexercising to burn off calories or skipping regular meals to try and lose weight, discuss this with your doctor. These could be signs of an eating disorder.

How you can support your child

Parents are important role models for children and have a key role in supporting the whole family to live a healthy lifestyle.

Start healthy habits. Make healthy eating and enjoyable exercise part of daily life.

Avoid making negative comments about your own or your child's body – and ask others to do the same. If you hear a negative comment about your child's weight, try to re-frame this into a positive message. For example, "growing bodies are strong bodies".

Be aware of bullying. Some children with a higher weight experience teasing or bullying related to their body size. This can occur from peers at school, teachers, parents and even health professionals. Ask your child if they are teased or bullied about their body and take appropriate action.

Finally, keep in mind that different treatments may work differently for different people. If you find a treatment approach is not working for your child or your family, return to your health care provider to discuss other options.

Children and families with weight concerns should be treated with respect and dignity at all times. If you don't feel your health provider is doing so, consider changing.

(By Natalie Lister and Hiba Jebeile, University of Sydney, The Conversation)

All you need to know about...

Being too strict with child

Lack Of Open Communication
Your child might hesitate to express their thoughts or concerns openly, fearing you may be strict with your approach. Creating a safe and open environment where your child feels comfortable sharing their thoughts and experiences is essential for their emotional well-being.

Not Confident Of Making Decisions
It is often believed that strict parents tend to make most of the decisions for their children, which can limit their experience in making life choices. It is important to allow your children to develop their decision-making skills and not impose your own choices or thoughts on them. Whether it's choosing their clothing, food preferences, or selecting an extracurricular activity, it is crucial to let them make decisions based on their own likes and interests.

Can Develop Stress
Constant pressure to meet parental expectations and fear of making mistakes can create stress and anxiety in children. If you observe signs of chronic stress or anxiety in your child, such as difficulty sleeping, frequent worrying, aversion to food, or physical symptoms like headaches or stomachaches, it may indicate that your strictness is taking a toll on their well-being.

No Social Interaction
Being strict can limit a child's social interactions and opportunities for social development. If your child rarely has the opportunity to spend time with friends, participate in social activities, or engage in age-appropriate experiences, this could be an indication that your strict rules restrict their social development.

Develop Secrecy
Strict parenting can cause children to rebel or engage in secretive behaviour. If your child exhibits signs of rebellion, such as defiance, breaking rules behind your back, or emotionally withdrawing, this could be a reaction to overly strict parenting. —Femina

Man murders roommate over minor dispute in Siddanapalya

A man killed his 26-year-old roommate following a trivial disagreement, at their residence in Anekal late on Wednesday The victim, identified as Nitish, was allegedly struck to death by his roommate, 23-year-old Somanath. The Anekal police swiftly apprehended the suspect within hours of the crime.

According to police reports, both Nitish and Somanath worked at a factory producing earth-moving machines' parts and shared a rented home in Siddanapalya with four other tenants. The pair frequently argued, often over minor issues. On Sunday, the two quarreled over the use of a bucket for washing clothes. Despite their housemates' efforts to calm them, tensions remained high. It is believed that Nitish continued to taunt and humiliate Somanath in the following days. Under the influence of alcohol and in a fury, Somanath hit Nitish with a hollow brick while he was asleep. The other roommates rushed Nitish to a hospital, but he was pronounced dead.

Following the incident, Somanath fled the scene, but police were able to track him down before he could escape the city.

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I V. SRI KRISHNA MURTHY S/O V.V.RAMA MURTHY #396, AMCO COLONY THIRD CROSS, KODIGE HALLI BENGALURU-560092 have changed my minor son's name from SRINIKETH VEMPATI to VEMPATI SRINIKETH Permanently.

I, NANDINI. P, Residing at No. 45/10/1B, Dore Bungalow, 5th Cross, 6th Phase, J.P. Nagar Bangalore -560078, Have changed my name to NANDINI MADESH, vide affidavit dated 18/09/2024 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I MOHAMMED ZUBAIR S/O Nawab jan R/O Magadi Road B- 23 Has change my name from MOHAMMED ZUBAIR to MOHAMMED ZUBAIR N only N Initial is added as father's name for all future purposes

I, PRASANYA RAVINDRAN alias PRASANYA R, W/o Srinivasan Bose, R/o Flat #301, Aarna Sunshine Apartments, 18th Avenue, Greenvile, Sarjapur Road, Junnasandra, Bengaluru – 560035, have changed my name as PRASANYA SRINIVASAN BOSE, vide affidavit dated 17.09.2024, sworn before notary S. Subashini, Bengaluru.

I, Manjunath S/o, Narasappa R/o No 675/a, 1st Floor, 4th Main, Beml 4th Stage, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru 560098 have changed my name to Manjunath N for all purposes.

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I, Vejendra Varma A S/o Aswh-wathaiah, residing at Halganahaly neeyar H colony,, Kasaba Hobali, Gowribidanur Talluk, Chikka-ballapura District. My original name is Vijendra Varma A and my father original name is Ash-wathaiah D and Mother Name is Lakshmamma H mentioned in my all educational documents and concerned documents. But in my 10th class marks state-ments vide Unique. ID. No: 8110045 (TW: 70046862 and TW: 1244644/036) and my name Wrongly mentioned as **verma A** instead of Vijendra Varma A. Same as been sworn before **H.M AadiNarayana Gowda**, Advocate & Notary, Gowribidnuru Dated: 04-07-2024

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Pourakarmikas protest caste abuse, atrocity

Workers demand BBMP implement policy to ensure safe and respectful working conditions for all

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Pourakarmikas gathered at the BBMP (Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike) office to demand justice for five workers who were subjected to assault and caste-based atrocities in Byadarahalli on September 11. The protesting workers called for the immediate arrest of the perpetrators and urged BBMP to take concrete steps to prevent such incidents in the future.

The workers also demanded that the BBMP implement a Safety and Dignity Policy to ensure safe and respectful working conditions for all pourakarmikas. They highlighted the everyday caste-based discrimination they endure, such as being told not to touch gates and being offered water in bathroom mugs—examples of the pervasive untouchability and humiliation they face while performing essential services.

Joint Commissioner of Solid Waste Management, Prathiba, accepted the memorandum from the protestors and assured them that she would speak to the police to expedite the arrest of the culprits. She also committed to taking steps to prevent future incidents, including issuing public advertisements to inform residents that BBMP will take immediate action in cases of caste atrocities against Pourakarmikas.

BBMP pourakarmikas protest outside the BBMP office against an incident of assault, on Wednesday

> **"BBMP will work towards formulating a policy to address caste-based discrimination**
> –Tushar Girinath, BBMP chief

BBMP Chief Commissioner, Tushar Girinath, also met with the protesting workers and assured them of his support. He promised to speak with the Police Commissioner to ensure a thorough investigation of the Byadarahalli incident. Furthermore, he pledged that BBMP would work towards formulating a policy to address caste-based discrimination and ensure dignified working conditions for Pourakarmikas. The BBMP Pourakarmikara Sangha (AICCTU) affirmed its commitment to continuing the struggle for dignified and fair working conditions for all Pourakarmikas.

Deja loo: Work in progress, yet again

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

call out in the open nature. The purpose was to stop creation of yellow spots on the vacant space along Gangadhara Chetty Road and the storm water drain. However, the public toilet was shut as soon as it was opened to the public. Later, it was converted into a dry waste collection centre.

And now, the BBMP has taken up the construction of a new toilet for the public instead of renovating the existing toilet. Residents and social activists are of the opinion that the BBMP should have renovated the existing defunct public toilet instead of constructing a new one. "The selection of the location itself is wrong. Once a toilet comes up, there will be hardly any space for the pedestrians to walk on the footpath. The toilet is being constructed adjacent to the storm water drain which is against norms. It is a waste of taxpayers' money. The BBMP authorities must cancel the construction of the new toilet and renovate the existing toilet for the benefit of auto rickshaw drivers and pedestrians," said BR Chandru, a social activist from Halasuru.

> **"Once a toilet comes up here, there will be hardly any space for the pedestrians to walk on the footpath. The toilet is being constructed adjacent to the storm water drain which is against norms**
> – BR Chandru, social activist

Demanding that the authorities stop the construction of the toilet, Subramani R, an auto rickshaw driver, agreed that renovation of the existing toilet would save the tax-payers' money.

"It is not clear why the BBMP decided to construct one more public toilet just a few hundred metres away from the existing toilet," said Subramani.

Emphasising on the need to have a public toilet on Gangadhara Chetty Road, Murugan N, a pedestrian, said the BBMP must construct the new toilet at least one km away from the existing toilet. "It will be prudent to construct the new toilet where it is required," said Murugan.

Meanwhile, BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer Savitri said that she has received complaints from the public on the construction of a new public toilet on Gangadhara Chetty Road. "I assumed office four days ago. I am not aware who is responsible for the construction of the toilet. I have to verify who is constructing it. I will stop the construction work," said the assistant executive engineer.

'Stop student drug use'

In response to the alarming rise in drug abuse near educational institutions, the Karnataka Government has unveiled a comprehensive plan to tackle the issue. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced the launch of a student policing system aimed at closely monitoring schools, colleges, and hostels. This initiative will see active participation from NCC (National Cadet Corps) and NSS (National Service Scheme) units, which will play a crucial role in overseeing and addressing drug-related issues in these environments.

Siddaramaiah emphasised on the need to curb the unauthorised sale of synthetic drugs and psychotropic substances, particularly in medical shops. A Task Force will be formed under the leadership of the Home Minister to oversee operations. The Chief Minister highlighted the need for the police department to take stringent actions against drug sales and distribution. Siddaramaiah pointed out that drug dealings cannot occur without the knowledge of station officers. — BMB

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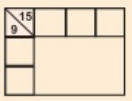
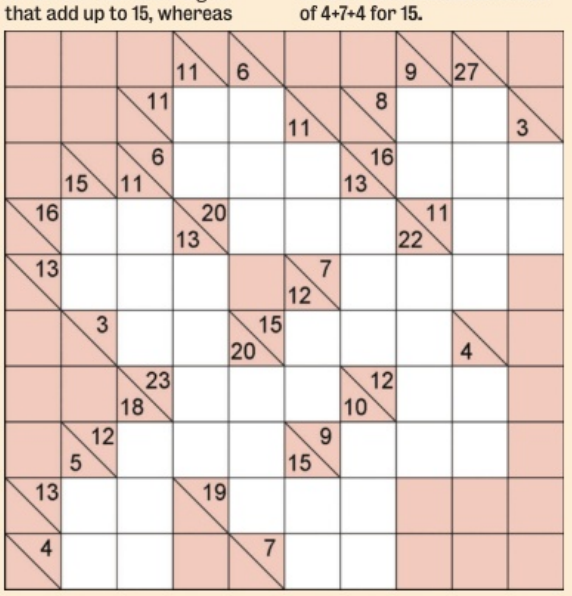
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

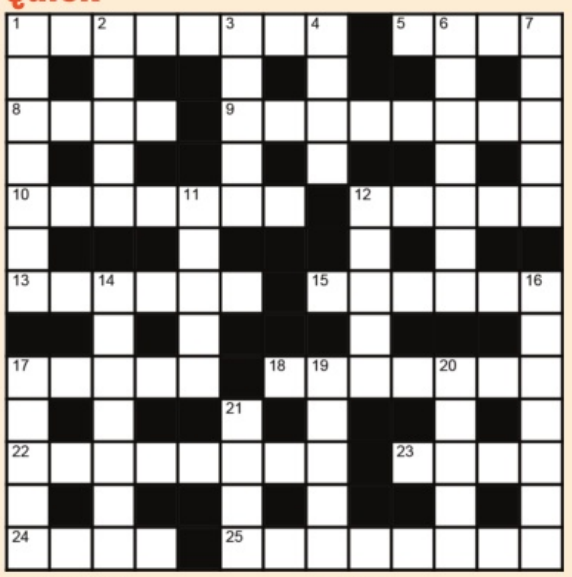


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Sitarist ___ Shankar (8)
5 Exchange for money (4)
8 Go out with (4)
9 Heavy or solidly built (8)
10 Great pleasure (7)
12 Extreme contempt (5)
13 Original, first (6)
15 Bangalore's favourite beverage (6)
17 Chambers (5)
18 A skilled workman or craftsman (7)
22 Passing over (8)
23 Elitist (4)
24 Route (4)
25 Hurdle (8)

DOWN

1 Found the sum of; amounted to (5,2)
2 In base 8 (5)
3 Rabbit cage (5)
4 A sour substance (4)
6 Slacken gradually (4,3)
7 Ancient language (5)
11 Prods or spurs (5)
12 Stream or pour (5)
14 Remove wrinkles; smoothen (4,3)
16 Give a title to (7)
17 Sum up (5)
19 Is furiously angry; speaks furiously or violently (5)
20 To do with sound (5)
21 Prefix for one thousand (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: P EQUALS G

CMTZXMP XO MTG IMTSPY; ZI USOG LVVWN. ZXWWXMP XO MTG IMTSPY; ZI USOG JT.

Linemaro

Even the sun is jealous of the way you shine

Mindchow

Beauty isn't in the face; it's a light in the heart

Joke of the day

Definition of a good farmer? A man outstanding in his field

Loop

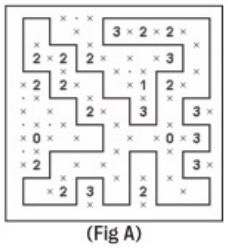
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

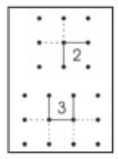
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

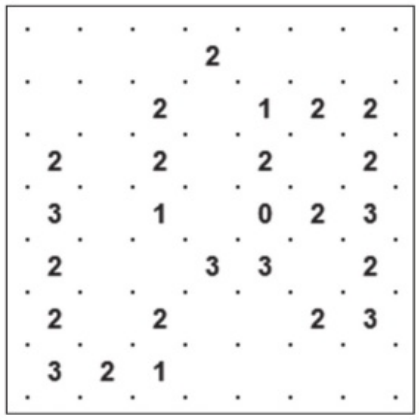
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



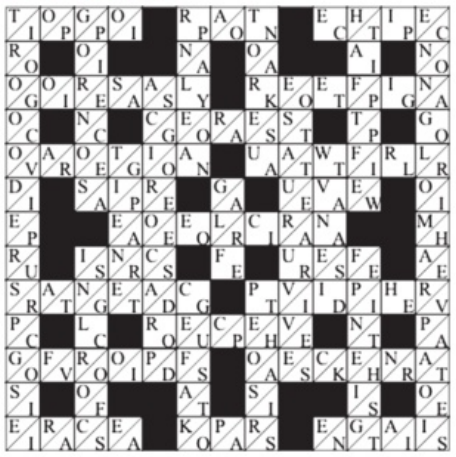
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



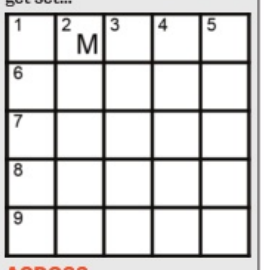
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 RA Bum; 6 R rear; 7 A birr; 8 A race; 9 Fit NY

DOWN

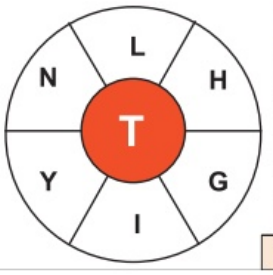
1 Unbar; 2 IR Arm; 3 Fiber; 4 Carte; 5 Ray RA

Mensapuzzle

Solve this rebus:

SCRIMMAGE

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 12 Good; 14 Outstanding

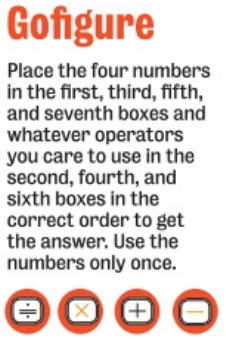
SudokuChallenge

8	6		2		3		9	4
2								8
		9				6		
3			5		1			6
	8						3	
5			9		6			2
		2				8		
1								7
7	5		4		2		6	3

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



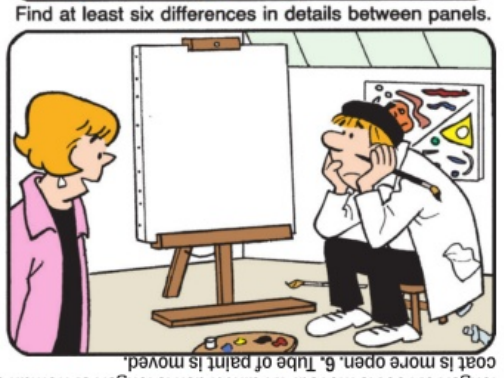
Easy = 19
1 3 7 8

Medium = 15
6 6 6 8

Hard = 1
3 6 8 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



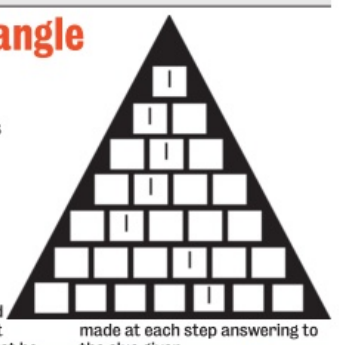
Differences: 1. Smock is longer. 2. Lower bracket on easel is longer. 3. Foot is moved. 4. Paintbrush is longer. 5. Woman's coat is more open. 6. Tube of paint is moved.

Riddler

Can you figure out this rebus? Boy: Can I dig a hole? Dad: Well sure, why not? Boy: Can I climb a tree? Dad: Yes, sir! Boy: Can I jump off the roof? Dad: Of course! Boy: Can I fly in the sky? Dad: Yes, son, you can! Boy: Can I go into space?! Dad: Erm. No, I'm sorry, son. You can't do that.

Alpha triangle

1 Egoistic letter
2 Not out
3 Nothing at all
4 King of the beasts
5 Jargon
6 Eying greedily
7 Incandescent

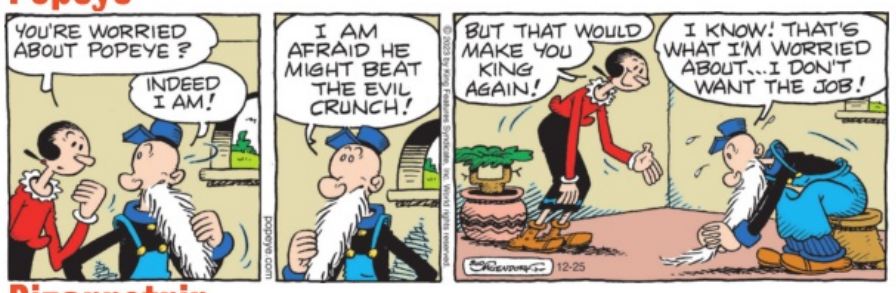


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT POPEYE ?
INDEED I AM!
I AM AFRAID HE MIGHT BEAT THE EVIL CRUNCH!
BUT THAT WOULD MAKE YOU KING AGAIN!
I KNOW! THAT'S WHAT I'M WORRIED ABOUT...I DON'T WANT THE JOB!
12-25

Bizarrotrip

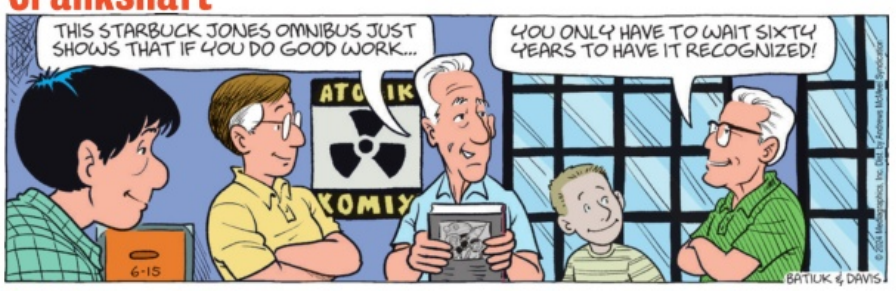
Diamond Lil

I HAD DINNER YESTERDAY AT THAT NEW PLACE
IT'S CALLED THE MELANCHOLY CAFE
WHAT DID YOU HAVE?
THE BLUE CHEESEBURGER
www.creators.com

Hart of the city

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR AUDITION TODAY!
THANKS! BUT AUDITIONS AREN'T UNTIL NEXT WEEK.
FINE, I TAKE IT BACK.
WAIT, NO! I WANT THE LUCK NOW!

Crankshaft


THIS STARBUCK JONES OMNIBUS JUST SHOWS THAT IF YOU DO GOOD WORK...
YOU ONLY HAVE TO WAIT SIXTY YEARS TO HAVE IT RECOGNIZED!
KOMIX
6-15
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may perform your best in the office. You may have good bonding with the boss, and you may get some new responsibilities in terms of promotions. You may also get good incentives for your work. Chronic health issues may be cured now. Disputes with the siblings may be resolved now. Job seekers may find new jobs.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may feel healthy; your old diseases may be cured now. You may hear some good news from your near relatives. You may perform well in the office; your colleagues may help you in any critical project. You may develop faith in your subordinate staff. It may increase your prestige among society. You may also hear good news in some legal matters.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you are likely to be busy with the kids' education and career. You may hear some good news in terms of their academics. Lovebirds are advised to be patient. Investors are advised to avoid investing in risky assets; they might convert into losses. It is advised to do meditation, yoga, or chanting some mantras to come out of this typical situation.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you will be a victim of dissatisfaction; you may not get the result of your hard work, and it may make you upset. You are advised to read documents carefully before signing a contract or paper. Investment in the assets may also be possible. You are advised to follow your intuition before making investments in the fixed assets. Overworking may affect your domestic life; you may arrive late to family or social events.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may be busy with social get-togethers and family occasions. It may increase your network. You may also plan for a work-related short trip. Disputes between siblings or friends may be resolved now. Your colleagues may cooperate with you to complete a difficult project. You are likely to complete all the tasks with self-confidence. You are advised to keep patience while interacting with anyone.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may implement some new plans into your family business; it will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. You may also be busy with family or social get-togethers. You may buy some creative things or artefacts to renovate your house, which may increase your social status. You are advised to be careful with teeth, ears, eye, nose, and skin issues.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Happiness may be around you. Your vital power may help you to take difficult decisions, which will increase your profits in the near future. You may plan for a work-related short trip. Colleagues may support you to complete your work on time. Students may find themselves more focused in their studies. You are advised to control your eating habits to avoid stomach issues.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel dull; sleeplessness may affect your mental and physical health as well. You may also be upset due to health issues of your family members. Your expenditure on worthless stuff may affect your savings. You may be a victim of conspiracy, so you are advised to keep an eye on your opponents.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, your past investments may give you good profits. You may get good results after some easy work. Your obstacles may disappear, and your financial status may be improved now; new sources of income may be there. Couples may hear good news in terms of kids.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are likely to meet someone. With the help of that person, you may expect positive growth in your business or work. Your destiny may help you, and your losses will convert into profits now. Financial health may be on track now. Lovebirds are advised to take some important decisions in terms of marriage. Singles may be likely to find their soulmate.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You are blessed by Jupiter today; you may expect to get some important position or post in the office. Situations are under control now. You may be inclined towards religion and mythological facts. You may feel yourself more strongly in your thoughts. It may make you confident in your way of working. You may also plan for an overseas tour.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may feel unhappy and dull. It may affect your way of working, and there may be some delay in the completion of your projects. It may affect your prestige in your professional and domestic life. It is advised to avoid adventure tours or rush driving. Lovebirds may break up. Job seekers may be disappointed in terms of a new job.

KIDZONE

Kangan D, Bengaluru

Varsha, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
1/4 ÷ 1/4 ÷ 1/4 ÷ 1/8
1/4 x 4/1 x 4/1 x 8/1
4/4 x 4/1 x 8/1
4/1 x 8/1
32/1 = 32

RIDDLER
The sky is the limit.

BULL'S EYE
gilt, glint, hilt, hint, light, flint, thigh, thinly, tingly, tiny, tying

FAST FIVE

U	M	B	R	A
R	A	R	E	R
B	R	I	A	R
A	R	E	C	A
N	I	F	T	Y

STRIKE OUT

E	R	S	E	O	P	S	E	T	A	S				
S	O			T	I		S		E					
O	V	O	I	D	S	A	S	C	E	N	T			
P	L	R	U	C	H	E	N		A					
R	A	G	T	A	G	T	I	D	I	E	R			
P		A	E	O	L	I	A	N		M				
D	S	I	R	A		U	A	E	O					
O	R	E	G	O	N		A	T	W	I	L	L		
O		C		C	O	R	E	S		P		G		
G	O	E	A	S	Y		K	E	E	P	I	N		
O		I		A		A		I		O				
T	O	P	I		R	A	T		C	H	I	C		

QUICK

P	A	T	H		O	B	S	T	A	C	L	E		
A		U		L		E		I			L			
C	R	O	S	S	I	N	G		S	N	O	B		
R	O	O	M	S		A	R	T	I	S	A	N		
E		N		K		A		O		N		O		
P	R	I	M	A	L		C	O	F	F	E	E		
U		O		P		F								
D	E	L	I	G	H	T		S	C	O	R	N		
E		A		C		D		E		I				
D	A	T	E		T	H	I	C	K	S	E	T		
D		C		U		C		A		A				
A	N	O	U	S	H	K	A		S	E	L	L		

QUOTE UNCODE
line of scrimmage
Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Willing is not enough; we must do.

MENSA PUZZLE

8	6	1	2	5	3	7	9	4
2	7	5	6	4	9	3	1	8
4	3	9	1	7	8	6	2	5
3	2	4	5	8	1	9	7	6
9	8	6	7	2	4	5	3	1
5	1	7	9	3	6	4	8	2
6	4	2	3	1	7	8	5	9
1	9	3	8	6	5	2	4	7
7	5	8	4	9	2	1	6	3

SUDOKU

ALPHA TRIANGLE
I, In, Nil, Lion, Lingo, Gilling, Glowing.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 3 + 7 + 1 = 19
Medium
6 / 6 + 8 + 6 = 15
Hard
6 - 3 + 5 / 8 = 1

KAKURO

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Golden Eye— Canadian actor Pamela Anderson will be honoured with the prestigious Golden Eye award at the 20th Zurich Film Festival (ZFF) in recognition of her versatile career

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When in doubt, hubby helps out

Katrina reveals how Vicky reassures her when she feels unsure about her looks

Katrina Kaif, often regarded as one of the most stunning actresses, recently revealed that she sometimes feels the pressure to meet certain beauty standards, especially on days when she's not feeling her best.

The 'Tiger' actress admitted there are times when she finds herself complaining about her appearance and weight. In those moments, her husband, Vicky Kaushal, steps in to reassure and calm her. In a conversation with Huda Kattan, Katrina Kaif discussed the motivation behind launching her beauty brand, Kay Beauty. She explained that there were times when she felt obligated to meet certain beauty standards or stereotypes. During certain days when she felt she didn't quite measure up, she experienced a sense of judgment, as though she didn't deserve to be in her position if she wasn't looking perfect or at her best. This feeling led her to create her own brand.

Katrina Kaif further explained that the emotional toll of feeling judged based on appearance was hurtful. The actress shared that during moments of self-doubt about her physical appearance, especially when preparing for an event, she sometimes finds herself complaining about not being happy with how she looks or feeling uncomfortable due to weight gain.

In these instances, her husband, Vicky Kaushal, gently reminds her of the message she promotes through her beauty brand, saying, "Aren't you the one who tells everyone it's okay to be yourself and to accept who you are?"

—ETimes

Supportive sis

Janhvi Kapoor has expressed her excitement for her sister Khushi Kapoor's upcoming romantic film with Junaid Khan, calling it "special." The film, which is currently untitled, is set to release on February 7, 2025, and is directed by Advait Chandan. T

The announcement was made alongside a charming poster featuring an artwork of the two leads taking a selfie, which has quickly gained popularity on social media.

On September 17, the production team shared the film's poster on Instagram, generating significant buzz among fans. The caption read, "Are you ready to experience love in the digital era with @khushi05k and #JunaidKhan? In Cinemas worldwide on 7th Feb

2025! Directed by @ advaitchandan." The poster hints at a narrative that explores themes of love and social media interaction in contemporary relationships, described as "about love, likes and everything in between" .

Janhvi Kapoor took to her Instagram stories to share the poster and wrote, "This is going to be special," showcasing her support for her sister's venture. Fans have also been eagerly commenting on the post, with one user expressing excitement about the film being untitled, while another remarked that it looks "adorable."

As per Hindustan Times reports, the initial phase of filming for the untitled romantic drama featuring Junaid Khan and Khushi Kapoor has concluded in Mumbai.

The production team has recently relocated to Delhi, where they began shooting a few days ago and are expected to continue for another 10 to 12 days. While the supporting cast will join as needed, both Junaid and Khushi are committed to being present throughout this filming schedule.

This film is a remake of the 2022 Tamil hit Love Today, directed by Pradeep Ranganathan.

—ETimes

ADVERTORIAL

Karki's team all excited ahead of film's grand release

The team of Karki is excited about the release of the movie at around 60 screens across the state on September 20. The team also plans to increase the number of screens based on the response from audiences.

In a video message, Sadhu Kokila, who shares the screen with Jaya Prakash aka JP in the film, said the movie has come out well and the hero has worked hard during the shooting. "I appeal to the movie buffs to encourage and support this Kannada movie. It has an ensemble of actors," said Sadhu Kokila.

Speaking on the use of a dog in the film, Jaya Prakash made it clear that no animal, including the dog, was harmed during the shooting. "All of us are animal lovers. We have showcased the relationship or connection between humans and dogs. The movie narrates the relationship between Kalabhairava and a dog and how the latter is considered as the vehicle for the former," said Jaya Prakash.

He said the movie Karki conveys a message to society.

On the occasion, director Pavithran said the movie Karki is different from other Kannada movies. "It is about society and about people and their aspirations. We visited many places searching for caretakers of dogs. Finally, we zeroed in on Kyasinakere village for the shooting," said Pavithran.

He said the protagonist in the movie is from a poor family and he wants to become an advocate and help the villagers.

Producer Prakash Palani, who bankrolled the movie under the Third Eye Media banner, said that many people cautioned him when he decided to produce this movie. "Some people advised me to make it in Malayalam but I told them that I am from Karnataka and I wanted to make this movie in Kannada. We are contemplating to release this film abroad also," said Prakash Palani.

Arjun Janya has scored music for this movie.